

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 06134 081639Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 CU-06 DHA-02 BIB-01
IO-14 /048 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2542
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
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UNCLAS LISBON 6134

USIA FOR IOP/M, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PO. US, CSCE
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - CSCE AND RFE TRANSMITTERS

1. TWO-PAGE SPREAD ATTACKING GOP'S FEBRUARY 1977 CONTRACT
RENEWAL FOR RFE/RL TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN PORTUGAL (RARET)
APPEARED IN AUG 6 COMMUNIST "O DIARIO." HEADLINE WAS "AGAINST THE
(PORTUGUESE) CONSTITUTION, UN CHARTER AND ACT OF HELSINKI:
SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT COLLABORATES WITH INTERNATIONAL REACTIONARY
FORCES."

2. PRINCIPAL THEMES OF ARTICLE ARE THAT RFE/RL AND RARET ARE CIA
OPERATIONS SERVING "COLD WAR" FUNCTIONS AND THAT AS SUCH THE RADIOS
CONTRAVENTE THE INTENTIONS OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT AND THE
PORTUGUESE CONSTITUTION. ARTICLE CONCLUDED: "THE EXISTENCE OF THESE
TWO SUBVERSIVE STATIONS CONSTITUTES A SAVAGE VIOLATION OF THE
STANDARDS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, OF THE UN CHARTER AND OF THE
PRINCIPLES WHICH 35 NATIONS, AMONG THEM THE UNITED STATES, WEST
GERMANY AND PORTUGAL, ACCEPTED IN HELSINKI. THE FINAL ACT OF THE
CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE SAID, WITH ALL
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CLARITY, THAT SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY IS UNPERMISSIBLE. BUT THE 'FREE
EUROPE' AND 'LIBERTY' RADIOS ARE DEDICATED PRECISELY TO THAT KIND
OF ACTIVITY, DIRECTED AND FINANCED BY OFFICIAL U.S. INSTITUTIONS.
THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT GAVE ITS APPROVAL TO THIS ACTIVITY IN
AUTHORIZING RARET TO TRANSMIT CIA-PRODUCED PROGRAMS."

3. "O DIARIO" ARGUED THAT CREATION OF BIB - WHICH IT POINTEDLY

FAILED EVEN TO NAME - WAS "COSMETIC", TO "FOOL AMERICAN AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION." ARTICLE SAID 60 PERCENT OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN RFE/RL ARE CIA EMPLOYEES OR IN U.S. MILITARY "SPY SYSTEM."

4. COMMUNIST PAPER FURTHER SHARPLY QUESTIONED GOP ABOUT WHAT IT TERMED DISMISSAL OF "INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE EARLIER NAMED TO NEGOTIATE THE CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH RARET." IT ALSO ASKED "WHETHER IT IS TRUE THAT THIS COMMITTEE ASKED FOR 70,000 CONTOS ANNUALLY, AND IF IT IS TRUE THAT THE CONTRACT LATER WAS SIGNED FOR A TOTAL OF ONE-TENTH THAT SUM."

5. ARTICLE ALSO ATTACKED DEUTSCHE WELLE TRANSMISSIONS FROM PORTUGAL AS A TOOL OF THE WEST GERMAN "SECRET SERVICE" AND "COMPLEMENTARY" TO RFE/RL TRANSMISSIONS TO THE COMMUNIST BLOC COUNTRIES.

6. TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE TEXT WILL BE FORWARDED VIA AIRGRAM.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: SOPN, PO, US, CSCE, O DIARIO
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